

## **SECURED TABLECLOTH**

### **RELATED APPLICATIONS**

5 This application claims the benefit of prior filed  
provisional application, Application No. 60/406,335.

### **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a tablecloth, which is  
secured to the table without revealing the means of securement.

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### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Tablecloths are used for covering the tops of tables to  
protect the table, and to provide an esthetic appearance to the  
table. Fitted tablecloths are well known and provide a secure  
15 covering for a table that will not shift or blow off in the wind.  
However, fitted tablecloths do not overhang the edges of the  
table and as such do not hide unattractive furniture or provide a  
formal appearance.

20 Skirting systems, which provide an overhang around the  
peripheral edge of a fitted tablecloth are also well known.  
However, skirting systems require some form of attaching device  
for the skirt to the peripheral edge of a table, such as clips or  
snaps, which require labor to secure, and provide an appearance  
25 of a separate cloth and skirt. As such, there is a need for a  
one-piece tablecloth which can be secured to a table, and provide  
a look of an overhanging tablecloth.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide a one piece tablecloth with an overhang that does not shift, slide, or require adjustment. It is a further object of this invention to provide an overhanging tablecloth that will not be disturbed  
5 by the wind, or be pulled off by an infant or person rising from the table.

#### **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention is a tablecloth that, while appearing  
10 to be a regular overhanging tablecloth, is secured to a table by a skirt that is sewn to the underside of a tablecloth and which connects to the table. Preferably, the skirt that is sewn to the tablecloth surrounds the entire peripheral edge of the table.

15 In contrast to known tablecloths, this tablecloth provides the look of an overhanging tablecloth, while providing some of the advantages of a fitted tablecloth, such as security from the wind and from being dislodged by persons using the table.

#### **20 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Further features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description, given by way of example, of a preferred embodiment taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

**Figure 1** is a perspective view of the tablecloth;

**Figure 2** is a perspective view of the tablecloth on a table;

5 and

**Figure 3** is a sectional view along line 3-3 of Figure 2.

#### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

10 Referring to **Figures 1** and **2** a tablecloth **10** comprises a sheet of material **14**, and a skirt **16** connected to the sheet of material **14** such that when the sheet of material **14** is placed over a table **18**, the skirt **16** attaches to the underside of the table **18** by elastic corners **20** to secure the sheet of material **14**  
15 to the table **18**.

Referring to **Figure 2**, in the preferred embodiment the sheet of material **14** has a similar shape to the surface of the table **18** so that when the sheet of material **14** is placed over the surface  
20 of the table **18** it freely overhangs the peripheral edges of the table **18**. The skirt **16** has one edge sewn to the sheet of material **14** such that the seam **12** of the skirt **16** and the sheet of the material **14** are slightly within the peripheral edge of the table **18**. The other edge of the skirt is secured to the table **18**

by elastic corners 20. The overhanging sheet of material 14 disguises the skirt 16 and therefore, although the sheet of material 14 is secured to the surface of the table 18, the appearance of a freely overhanging tablecloth is achieved.

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Although elastic corners are used to secure the sheet of material 14 onto the table 18, other means such as ties, a drawstring, or VELCRO® may be used to secure the skirt 16 to the table 18. Further, although a skirt 16 that surrounds the entire  
10 peripheral edge of the table 18 is shown in the preferred embodiment, the skirt 16 may be sewn so that pockets are formed only at the corners of a table that is not round.

Accordingly, while this invention has been described with  
15 reference to illustrative embodiments, this description is not intended to be construed in a limiting sense. Various modifications of the illustrative embodiments, as well as other embodiments of the invention, will be apparent to persons skilled in the art upon reference to the description. It is therefore  
20 contemplated that the appended claims will cover any such modifications or embodiments, which fall within the true scope of the invention.